Listing of Claims

This listing of claims is provided for convenience and replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

- (Previously presented) A method performed by one or more components in a network comprising a plurality of paths between a first device and a second device, the method comprising:
 - conducting a first performance test of a first type over a first path of the plurality of paths between the first and second devices:
 - conducting a second performance test of the first type over a second path of the plurality of paths between the first and second devices; and
 - wherein a processor initiates the simultaneous execution of the first and the second non-sequential performance tests.
- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first performance test produces a first set of results:
 - wherein the second performance test produces a second set of results; and further comprising presenting a service level performance comparison based on the first and second sets of results.
- (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the first performance test includes a plurality of first individual performance tests performed over an extended time duration;
 - the second performance test includes a plurality of second individual performance tests performed over the extended time duration.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein each of the pluralities of first and second individual performance tests are performed at roughly periodic intervals over the extended time duration.

- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first path transverses a first access network, a first transport network, and a second access network; and the second path transverses the first access network, a second transport network, and the second access network
- (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a scheduling request representing the first and second performance tests.
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the scheduling request is received by a scheduling system; and the scheduling system communicates a first indication of the request to the first device.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the scheduling system further communicated a second indication of the request to the second device.
- (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising scheduling the first and second performance tests based on the scheduling request and a random time component.
- (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising determining whether the scheduling request is authorized.
- 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising indicating that the scheduling request is not authorized.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising determining whether the scheduling request conflicts with a second scheduling request.
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising determining whether a number of scheduled tests exceeds a first threshold number for the first device or exceeds a second threshold number for the second device.

- 14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising indicating a failed scheduling request.
- 15. (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium containing computer-executable instructions for performing a method by steps comprising:
 - conducting a first performance test of a first type over a first path of a plurality of paths between a first and second devices;
 - conducting a second performance test of the first type over a second path of the plurality of paths between the first and second devices; and
 - wherein a processor initiates the simultaneous execution of the first and the second non-sequential performance tests.
 - 16. (Previously presented) A network comprising:
 - a plurality of paths between a first device and a second device;
 - means for conducting a first performance test of a first type over a first path of the plurality of paths between the first and second devices;
 - means for conducting a second performance test of the first type over a second path of the plurality of paths between the first and second devices; and
 - wherein a processor initiates the simultaneous execution of the first and the second non-sequential performance tests.
- 17. (Original) The network of claim 16, wherein said means for conducting the first performance test includes means for generating a first set of results;
- wherein said means for conducting the second performance test includes means for generating a second set of results; and
- further comprising means for presenting a service level performance comparison based on the first and second sets of results.
- 18. (Original) The network of claim 16, wherein the first path transverses a first access network, a first transport network, and a second access network; and the second path

transverses the first access network, a second transport network, and the second access network

- 19. (Original) The network of claim 16, further comprising means for receiving a scheduling request representing the first and second performance tests.
- 20. (Original) The network of claim 19, further comprising means for scheduling the first and second performance tests based on the scheduling request and a random time component.
 - 21. (Previously presented) A network comprising:
 a first device coupled to a first access network;
 the first access network coupled to a first and a second transport networks;
 a second access network coupled to the first and the second transport networks;
 a second device coupled to the second access network; and
 wherein a processor initiates the simultaneous execution of a performance test
 between the first device and the second device over each of the first and
 second transport networks simultaneously.
- 22. (Original) The network of claim 21, wherein the first device is coupled to a first router, wherein the first router selectively routes performance testing packets received from the first device over a first path to the first transport network and a second path to the second transport network.
- 23. (Original) The network of claim 21, further comprising a performance test scheduler.
- 24. (Original) The network of claim 23, further comprising a client device, wherein the client device transmits one or more scheduling requests for the performance test.

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- 25. (Original) The network of claim 24, further comprising a results collector for receiving a set of results associated with the performance test.
- 26. (Original) The network of claim 25, wherein the results collector transmits at least a subset of the set of results to the client device.
- 27. (Original) The network of claim 23, wherein the performance test scheduler communicates a scheduling instruction associated with the performance test to the first device.
- 28. (Original) The network of claim 27, wherein the performance test scheduler communicates a second scheduling instruction associated with the performance test to the second device.
- 29. (Original) The network of claim 28, wherein the second device includes a test mode; and wherein the second device enters the test mode in response to receiving the second scheduling instruction.